

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SINGAP 01173 220123Z

ACTION INR-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 EUR-12 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02

SS-15 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 DODE-00 AID-05 OMB-01

TRSE-00 EB-08 L-03 PRS-01 IO-13 /084 W

-----220501Z 031848 /14

R 211015Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7356

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY MANILA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SINGAPORE 1173

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SN, VN, US

SUBJECT: GOS AND ASEAN ATTITUDES TOWARDS U.S. NORMALIZATION
WITH VIETNAM AND SINGAPORE MEDIA REACTION TO WOODCOCK
MISSION

REFS: (A) STATE 057674, (B) 76 SINGAPORE 3450, (C) 76 SINGAPORE 4325

1. GCAVA1. EMBASSY HAS NO MAJOR PROBLEMS WITH INR ANALYSIS (REF A)
BUT BELIEVES LATTER EFFORT OVER-SIMPLIFIED GOS ATTITUDE TOWARD
VIETNAM. SPECIFIC EMBASSY COMMENTS FOLLOW.

2. WHILE GOS ACCEPTS THE EVENTUAL NORMALIZATION OF U.S.-
VIETNAM RELATIONS, IT HARBORS STRONG AND PERVASIVE FEAR OF
VIETNAMESE INTENTIONS IN THE REGION. ALTHOUGH GOS HOPES THAT
EXPANDED U.S. INTERACTION WITH VIETNAM MAY SERVE TO MODERATE
SRV POLICIES, IT IS NOT SO SANGUINE AS TO BELIEVE (PARA 4,
REFTEL THAT U.S. - HANOI RELATIONS WILL NECESSARILY HAVE THIS
EFFECT.

3. U.S. AID, AND TO A LESSER EXTENT TRADE AND INVESTMENT,
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SINGAP 01173 220123Z

WHILE COMPRISING POTENTIAL LINKAGES THAT COULD INFLUENCE SRV,
ARE SUBJECTS OF ANXIETY TO GOS. WHILE SINGAPORE WOULD LIKE
TO REESTABLISH THE LEVEL OF TRADE IT ONCE HAD WITH VIETNAM, GOS
WOULD NOT WANT USG TO AID VIETNAM BEYOND PROVIDING MODEST
SUPPORT FOR AGRICULTURAL SECTOR FOR HUMANITARIAN PURPOSES.
GOS POSITS WORST CASE FOR SRV INTENTIONS IN THE REGION AND WOULD
PREFER THAT RECONSTRUCTION OCCUPY VIETNAM'S ENERGIES

AS LONG AS POSSIBLE. ILLUSTRATIVE OF GOS WARINESS IS FACT
THAT SINGAPORE HAS NOT ACCEPTED PHAN HIEN'S OBLIQUE INVITATION
PARA 6 REF B) TO SEND OFFICIAL DELEGATION TO HANOI.

4. THESE GENERAL GOS VIEWS TOWARD VIETNAM WERE MIRRORED
IN MARCH 18 EDITORIAL IN GOVERNMENT-INFLUENCED STRAITS TIMES (ST),
OCCASIONED BY ARRIVAL TWO DAYS EARLIER IN HANOI OF WOODCOCK
MISSION. TITLED "A NEW START?", COMMENTARY TAKES A TENTATIVE,
CAUTIOUS VIEW OF POSSIBILITY THAT U.S. - VIETNAM RELATIONS
COULD IMPROVE AS A RESULT OF THE U.S. INITIATIVE. ACKNOWLEDGING
THAT VIETNAMESE ATTITUDE TOWARD U.S. APPEARS TO HAVE SOFTENED,
ST RECOMMENDS THAT WASHINGTON SHOULD TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS
MOOD, PROVIDED WOODCOCK CAN CONFIRM IT, TO "EMBARK ON A MORE
CONSTRUCTIVE RELATIONSHIP WITH HANOI". AFTER ASSERTING THAT
U.S. SHOULD NO LONGER VETO SRV MEMBERSHIP IN U.N, (SEE
ALSO REF C), EDITORIAL RECOMENDS A CARROT-STOCK APPROACH TO
VIETNAM. "...IF BILATERAL RELATIONS CAN BE WORKED OUT,
PRESIDENT CARTER CAN HELP THE STABILITY OF THE REGION
BY RESPONDING TO VIETNAMESE REQUIREMENTS ACCORDING TO THE
DEGREE TO WHICH HANOI IS PREPARED TO LEAVE NON-COMMUNIST
SOUTHEAST ASIA UNMOLESTED".
HOLDRIDGE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS ESTABLISHMENT, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, PRESIDENTIAL MISSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 21-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977SINGAP01173
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770097-0264
Format: TEL
From: SINGAPORE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770339/aaaabhgx.tel
Line Count: 84
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 60a6d4b4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION INR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 57674, 76 SINGAPORE 3450, 76 SINGAPORE 4325
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3045313
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GOS AND ASEAN ATTITUDES TOWARDS U.S. NORMALIZATION WITH VIETNAM AND SINGAPORE MEDIA REACTION TO WOODCOCK MISSION
TAGS: PFOR, SOPN, SN, VN, US, ASEAN
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/60a6d4b4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009